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## Time to plant? Getting close!

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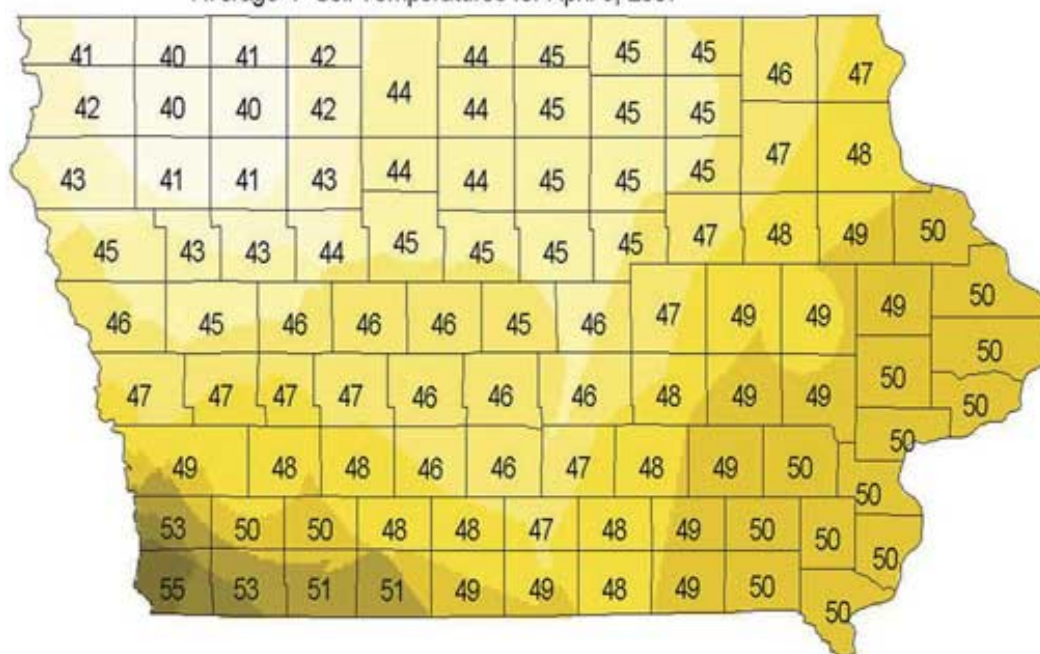
## Time to plant? Getting close!

by Rich Pope, Departments of Entomology and Plant Pathology

Spring weather in Iowa is, by definition, variable as air masses move across the landscape. The question that arises on occasion among farmers planning the planting season is, "What is the soil temperature in my area?" The Web site often cited to track fall soil temperatures for nitrogen applications is still functional, and soil temperatures are updated daily at the [soil temperature history Web site](#). The Web site shows county-level average soil temperatures for the previous three days and is updated daily.

*Rich Pope is an extension program specialist in entomology with responsibilities in integrated pest management and pesticide applicator training.*

Average 4" Soil Temperatures for April 3, 2007



*This is a web capture map of the average 4" depth Iowa soil temperatures as of April 3, 2007.*

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